

everybody was applying. As I understand it, somewhere...there are ranges by program, between 28 and 49 other states have received sanctions in the same period of time that Nebraska has received sanctions.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR WARNER: But the important thing that I want to point out is that I would not want the impression to be in our minds that for a period of six years that the Department of Social Services have had a sloppy operation which the state has been charged \$8 million. That has not occurred. It has not occurred. We have not lost any money for these bases. Plus, the other important thing to know is if the department recovers money because of an error that was made on the application, that we aren't given credit for that either. So I merely bring your attention to the fact that the issue of sanctions and fines, in fact, is not one that probably is pertinent to the issue that we are dealing with here because my impression, from when I read this, and from what I heard others of you say was that some way or other we had been already assessed these and that, in fact, is not accurate.

PRESIDENT NICHOL PRESIDING

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Hannibal, please, and then Senator Lynch.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Mr. President and members, I rise to oppose the advancement of LB 392. We had a lot of discussion yesterday and I understand that there are probably a lot of people in the room that, of my colleagues, that have made up their mind that this is a small price to pay, \$100,000 this year, for keeping jobs in your district and I would submit to you that this is not an issue that is as simple as that. I think it's important that we take a little time and understand exactly what we are doing, understand what the process we have been going through the last two years, at least, and actually beyond that, because we have had tremendous problems with our revenues in the State of Nebraska. We have been trying to match revenues with expenditures and this has been a very difficult thing for us to do, but we have done that. We have done it because we have reduced the scope of government in some areas. We have reduced expenditures. We have reduced employment on the state level. We have made some pretty tough decisions and those decisions were made right here on this floor. Last December we had